



27 September 2026

Year A

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Gospel Reflection—Matthew 21:28-32

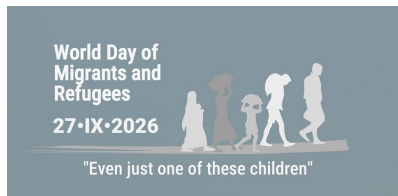
This week's gospel passage is one of many within Matthew's gospel that show Jesus at odds with the religious authorities of his day. The picture of the religious leaders that comes through Matthew's gospel is one of hypocrisy. Jesus is frequently portrayed as criticising the leaders for holding too strongly to the letter of the law and ignoring the spirit of the law and the call to compassion. This week's passage has Jesus seeking the opinion of the chief priests and elders on a hypothetical situation (a common style of debating a point of law in the Jewish tradition). He describes two sons, each asked by their father to go and work in the family vineyard. The first says 'No' but later does his father's bidding. The second says 'Yes' but doesn't follow through on his commitment.

Jesus is criticising the religious leaders of his time who, with their words, said 'Yes' to God but by their actions said 'No'. He most certainly would have upset the leaders by telling them that tax collectors and prostitutes would enter the kingdom of God before them. Whilst these tax collectors and prostitutes were regarded by the religious authorities as 'sinners' beyond redemption, Jesus holds them up in the image of the first son of the story. Although they may have said 'No' to God through their poor choices, ultimately they are saying 'Yes' to God in their acceptance of Jesus and the message of the kingdom of God. On the other hand, the leaders have said 'Yes' to God publicly through abiding by all the religious laws and maintaining a 'religious profile' but in their hearts and actions they are Living the Gospel – Saying 'Yes!'

In many ways, it is easy to say 'Yes' and not really mean it. Some people do it all the time in their lives. They say 'Yes' when they have no intention at all of following through on their commitment. It's easy to say 'Yes' and not mean it when it comes to faith as well. It's pretty easy to turn up at Church on a Sunday and be seen to be doing the 'right' thing. But if our faith doesn't change the way we live, then maybe we're really saying 'No' to God. not truly said 'Yes!'

© Greg Sunter Liturgy Help

World Refugee and Migration Sunday



World Refugee and Migration Sunday, officially known in the Catholic Church as the World Day of Migrants and Refugees (WDMR) is celebrated on the last Sunday in September. It is an annual global observance dedicated to praying for, supporting, and raising awareness about refugees, displaced persons and migrants. Each year, the Pope releases a specific message with a unique theme. This year's theme is "Even Just One of these Children" focusing heavily on the

rights and dignity of migrant minors.

The Catholic Church has observed this day since 1914, following a request by Pope Pius X to address the massive waves of migration and displacement. This year we acknowledge the 112th commemoration of this day.

54th International Eucharistic Congress (Eucharist28)

Are you aware of the Eucharistic Congress 2028 website? <https://www.eucharist28.org/> There are some excellent resources and information that is being regularly updated. Want to volunteer? Check out <https://www.eucharist28.org/volunteer>. Watch the series of clips on the Eucharist. Now up to No.9. <https://www.eucharist28.org/resources>.

SAVE THE DATE: 24 September—1 October 2028.



OUR VISION

"Everything is to be oriented towards the praise and glory of God."

OUR MISSION

The St Agnes' Parish Community strives to make our Vision a reality by a commitment to:

- holiness in the image of Christ.
- minister within the faith community.
- proclaim the good news of salvation.
- the service of all, particularly those in need.



UNCOMPROMISING
INTEGRITY

Thank You for Your Generosity



St Agnes' Foundation Homelessness Appeal — Final Update

Thank you sincerely for your continued generosity, our August 2026 appeal raised \$5,176.45 for those in our community experiencing homelessness and vulnerability. We are deeply grateful for every gift, large and small.

We are called to see Christ in every person, especially those who are struggling or without a home:

"I was hungry and you gave me food... I was a stranger and you welcomed me." — Matthew 25:35

Every person deserves dignity, safety and belonging, because every person is made in the image of God. When we reach out with compassion — a meal, a kind word, a moment of our time — we make God's love visible in our community.

Together, we continue the mission of Christ, bringing dignity, compassion and care to those most in need. May God bless you for your generosity and for the difference you have made in the lives of others.

Baptism

We pray for Oxley Goodman and Aurora Mateariki as they are gifted with the grace of the Holy Spirit in the sacrament of baptism. May the Lord look lovingly on these children and their families.



Happy Holidays Fr Paul

We farewell Fr Paul who commences his well earned leave. We wish him a relaxing time and look forward to his return later in October.

St Agnes' Community Day

ST AGNES' COMMUNITY day
SUNDAY, 22 NOV | 11am - 2pm

The focus this year will be on **Mass, hospitality and children's activities**. We are not asking for registrations this year but would love you to sign up to be kept informed of what is happening, and of course to volunteer in some capacity. Please use the QR code here or online



[click this link.](#)

Police Remembrance Day

September 29 is National Police Remembrance Day. It is celebrated on this day as it is also the feast day of St Michael the Archangel who is the patron saint of police. St Michael is recognised as an archangel by the Christian, Jewish and Islamic faiths.



It is a day for police to pause and honour officers whose lives have been lost while performing their duty as a police officer. This important day is also a time to remember police officers who have lost their lives through illness or other circumstances.

The ceremony will be held at All Saints Catholic Church, West Kempsey on Tuesday 29 September at 10.00am. All are invited to attend. Following the service there will be morning tea in the All Saints Parish Hall.

ROSARY opportunities during the month of October

*Wednesday, 7 October, the Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary, after 9.30am Mass at St Francis of Assisi Chapel and after 6.00pm Mass at St Bernard's Telegraph Point.

***St Mary, Star of the Sea Church, Lake Cathie:** A public Rosary held in the church grounds, on Saturday 17 October commencing at 10.00am. All are welcome to join in this beautiful prayer. For further information please contact Rose on 0415435135.

* 3 October, (**First Saturday of the month**) at 10.30am before the Liturgy of the Word and Adoration.

***Pray with Pope Leo XIV: One Million Children Praying the Rosary.** From 1-7 October, *Aid to the Church in Need* invites you to join with Pope Leo XIV and Catholics worldwide for the *One Million Children Praying the Rosary* prayer campaign, for peace and unity in the world.



Adoration

No Adoration in St Francis of Assisi Chapel, 3.30pm-4.00pm until **Wednesday 14 October**.

NB. Now every first Saturday of the month in St Agnes' Church after the **Liturgy of the Word** at 11am. The next opportunity will be on Saturday 3 October.

Lake Cathie Change of Mass Time

Parishioners are reminded that the time for Mass at St Mary Star of the Sea Church, Lake Cathie, will change the weekend after daylight saving commences. **From Saturday 10 October Mass will go back to the later time of 6.00pm.**

Daylight Savings Reminder



Daylight Saving Time will begin again in New South Wales on **Sunday, 4 October, 2026**, at 2:00am when clocks are moved forward by one hour to 3:00am AEDT.

Adult Formation

Liturgical: 1. An opportunity for everyone to learn more about the liturgy. Why we do what we do? Liturgy Formation is for the entire assembly – and not for a few experts. Pope Leo XIV, speaking about formation for liturgy in 2026, chose to quote from his predecessor, the late Pope Francis, echoing some key points on this topic. “In his Apostolic Letter *Desiderio Desideravi*, 2022, which described the beauty of the liturgy’s theological and spiritual depth, Pope Francis emphasised the need for an attentive and ongoing formation of clergy and laity alike in revitalising the liturgical life of the universal Church (cf. no. 38). He later reminded us that this kind of formation “is not a specialisation for a few experts, but rather an inner disposition of all the People of God”. “In this way, through proper education and reverent worship, Catholics will be formed both for the liturgy and by the liturgy (cf. no. 34).” Our Bishop too, has indicated his wanting people to receive good liturgical education.

Saturday 24 October at All Saints Kempsey, 9.00am–3.00pm. Register via the QR code or [Registration](#). (Transport will likely be available if needed.)

Faith: 2. *Engaging Your Faith* is a series of short online presentations from the Catholic Theological College which invite participants to reflect on what it means to be people of faith in the contemporary world. The cost is \$25.00 per session for general audience. To register for the October sessions, scan the QR code or visit the website <https://ctc.edu.au/news-and-events/engaging-your-faith/> for further details.

3. Online Courses for Cycle 7 with the ***Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation*** are now open. They begin on 26 October. Use the following link to see what is available <https://vlcff.udayton.edu/calendar/>.

4. The next Webinar through the Council of Australasian Catholics (CAC) and Garratt Publishing, ***The Changing Face of Catholicism*** on Thursday 8 October at 7.00 pm.

Contact: tony.worner@stagnesparish.org.au (0436941280) for further information on any of the above opportunities.

Spiritual: 5. A weekend Retreat on Prayer, ***Friendship with God with St Teresa of Avila***. 27-29 November, Mt Carmel Retreat Centre Varroville NSW. For more information, see flyers at the entrance or contact Leanne Hyland on 0421927435.

Wrap with Love

The Catholic Women’s League members will be hosting a thank you morning tea at the Tension Woods Centre, Lochinvar Place, on Friday the 2 October at 10.00am. For further information please contact Veronica on 0413386686 or Helen on 65855391.

Remember in Prayer

Recently Deceased: Warren Dinsdale, Kay Wood, Bruno Missio, Fernando Escobar, Michael Moseley, Sr Arpitha, Graham Lonard, Denice Page, Myrna Acred, .

Anniversaries: Briggitta Anthony, Rosily Varghese, John & Kathleen Carroll, John Haxell, Teresa Hickey, Jack Mooney.

Other Intentions: MJ Olidan, Ferdie Cabrera, Jarrod Thatcher, Michelle Alber, Sandra Turner, Marie & Patrick Mullens, Mary Clark, Margaret Gallagher, Barbara Riordan, Win Rohan, Peggy Collins, and masses of thanksgiving and donor intentions.



Encounter Fundraising:

Thank you to those that have generously donated to our fundraising efforts. If you would still like to make a donation, envelopes are available from the Pastoral Office. All proceeds go towards supporting youth ministry in our parish.

Encounter Youth & Kids

Encounter Youth & Kids will take a break for the school holidays. We will return on 23 October.

Encounter Young Adults

Young Adults is taking a break for a few weeks and will return on Thursday 1 October. If you’re a young person aged 18-35 and looking to get connected with other young adults in our parish, please get in touch with Christa.

Ignite

Ignite Youth is bringing Selah (Ignite YA Festival) back to our Diocese for the second time. Set amongst the beautiful bushland of the Selah Valley Estate, this is a chance to meet great people, pray deeply, laugh loudly, and experience a vibrant catholic community.

Date: 4–7 December 2026

Location: Selah Valley Estate, Limpinwood

General Admission: \$110 (subsidies available)

Liminal

Year 12 graduates from across the Diocese are invited to Liminal, a three-night retreat designed especially for young people navigating the transition between school and whatever comes next. The retreat will provide opportunities for prayer, rest, friendship, formation, and practical guidance.

Date: 5–8 February 2027

Location: Evans Head **Cost:** \$150

Please contact: christa.morrow@stagnesparish.org.au

St AGNES' CATHOLIC PARISH



Parish Priest

Father Paul Gooley

Assistant Priest

Father Proencio Bognay

Pastoral Office

47 Hay Street: PO Box 23

Port Macquarie 2444

T (02) 6583 1024

E pastoraloffice@stagnesparish.org.au

Web: www.stagnesparish.org.au

Office Hours: 8.30am - 4.30pm Mon,

Tues, Thurs, Friday.

9.00am-4.30pm Wednesday

Parish Pastoral Council

PPC@stagnesparish.org.au

c/o St Agnes' Pastoral Office

PO Box 23 Port Macquarie 2444

Feedback to Parish

Complaints, concerns and feedback

(both positive and negative)

can be made by emailing:

parish.feedback@stagnesparish.org.au

c/o St Agnes' Parish Administration

Feedback: PO Box 1736 Port Macquarie

Liturgical Celebrations

26th Week in Ordinary Time (Year A/2)

Monday 28 September

[St Wenceslaus](#)

Optional

[St Lawrence Ruiz and companions](#)

Optional

Tuesday 29 September

[Sts Michael, Gabriel, Raphael](#)

Feast

Wednesday 30 September

[St Jerome](#)

Memorial

Thursday 1 October

[St Thérèse of the Child Jesus \(of Lisieux\)](#)

Memorial

Friday 2 October

[The Holy Guardian Angels](#)

Memorial

General Mass Times in St Agnes' Catholic Parish

(Please note: There are occasions when these Mass times may change.

Please ensure you read the inside of the newsletter for changes).

Monday: No Mass

Tuesday: 9.30am or 11.00am Residential aged care only

12.05pm St Agnes' Catholic Church

Wednesday: 9.30am St Francis of Assisi Chapel

6.00pm St Bernard's Church

Thursday: 12.05pm St Agnes' Catholic Church

4.30pm Christ the King Chapel

Friday: 12.05pm St Agnes' Catholic Church

Saturday: 5.00pm St Mary, Star of the Sea Church, Lake Cathie

Sunday: 7.30am, 9.00am, 5.00pm St Agnes' Catholic Church

Reconciliation: Friday: 11.30am - 12 noon; Saturday: 11.30am - 12.30pm

COVID Awareness

Please continue to be mindful and respectful of each other and do not attend if you are unwell or have any cold/flu-like symptoms.

Suggested Streaming of Masses

Sunday 9.00am - Bishop Greg Homeming OCD, Lismore. [YouTube Channel](#);

Daily Mass on Demand

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCYRq7AjVimr-hcHFJD_HVaQ

Mass for you at Home: Sunday 6.00am streamed on Channel 10.

Reflections: Lismore Diocese [YouTube Channel](#); [Fr Paul Daily Reflections](#)

Roster 4 October 2026

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

7.30am:

SAC: Leone Flanagan

R1: Joan Lancaster

R2: Gai Arnold

C: Jim O'Brien

EMHC: Geoff Leary

Volunteer

Welcomer: Mary O'Brien

5.00pm

SAC: Vanessa Denham

R1: Cody Lee

R2: Anne Hayek

C: Sue Williams

EMHC: Jan O'Sullivan

Volunteer

Welcomer: Jan O'Sullivan

9.00am:

SAC: Sandra Hartas

R1: Rene Barros

R2: Cathy Hawtin

C: Alan Wheatland

EMHC: Judy Brady

Rita Koenig

Welcomer: Gavin Smith (S)

Rita Credaro (W)

Friday 12.05pm, 9 October

SAC: Paula Foster

R: Sandra Hartas



4.15%
effective 1/8/2026

The Port Macquarie office of the DIF is open Monday to Friday

9.00am - 1.00pm. Phone Veronica or

Mary for any enquiries on

6583 7439. All enquiries outside these hours phone 1800 802 516.

St Agnes' Catholic Parish Library

Library opening times

Thursday 10am - 12pm

Friday 10am - 2pm

Safeguarding Office. If you have any Safeguarding concerns contact the Diocese of Lismore Safeguarding Office. We will listen to you respectfully; offer support and discuss options you have available to you.

To contact the Safeguarding Office, please phone (02) 6621 9444 or email:

safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au.

A copy of the Safeguarding Newsletter is available from the St Agnes' Church foyer or the Pastoral Office.



Weekday Mass Time Changes from Monday 5 October 2026

Dear parishioners and friends of St Agnes,

Our **weekday mass times will be changing from Monday 5 October, 2026** due to there being only one priest in the parish until the 23rd of November, 2026. The mass times will be as follows:

Monday	NO MASS		
Tuesday	1st Tuesday of the month	11.00am	Emmaus Chapel 16 Colonel Barney Dr, Port Macquarie
	2nd Tuesday of the month	9.30am	Mt Carmel House Lochinvar Place, Port Macquarie
	3rd Tuesday of the month	9.30am	Maryknoll House Lochinvar Place, Port Macquarie
	4th Tuesday of the month	9.30am	St Agnes House Lochinvar Place, Port Macquarie
Wednesday	9.30am	St Francis of Assisi Chapel Lochinvar Place, Port Macquarie All are welcome and a student group from St Peter's Primary School usually attends.	
	6.00pm	St Bernard's Catholic Church, Telegraph Point Rollands Plains Road, Telegraph Point	
Thursday	9.30am	Christ the King Chapel Boronia Street, Port Macquarie All are welcome and a student group from St Agnes's Primary School usually attends.	
Friday	12.05pm	St Agnes Church All are welcome and a student group from MacKillop College usually attends.	

THE WEEKEND MASS TIMES AND RECONCILIATION TIMES REMAIN UNCHANGED.